No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/06/15 : LOC-HAK-505-8-25-5

TS-HF-A04092

VZCZCEJA068
OO WTF22
DE WTF #0755 0460004

TOP SECRET

O 142355Z FEB 73
FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 171
TO RODMAN/LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER
ZEM
T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE WH30515

TOHAK 171

FEBRUARY 14, 1973

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

1. SCHLESINGER IS DEPARTING TOMORROW FOR HIS CONSULTATIONS. HE SAYS THAT HIS EVALUATION INDICATES THAT THE PROPOSAL IS MARGINAL AGAINST PRESENT DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS AND SUBMARGINAL AS COMPARED TO IMPROVED DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS. HE BELIEVES THAT THE BRITISH ALREADY KNOW THIS BUT WISH US TO TELL THEM.
2. I PASSED TO THE PRESIDENT SOME OF THE INITIAL RESULTS OF THE DEBRIEFING OF THE POWS. THE PREDOMINANT THREAD THUS FAR IS STRONG PRIDE IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN PRESIDENT NIXON, TOGETHER WITH STATEMENTS THAT THE DECEMBER BOMBING WAS A GREAT MORALE BUILDER FOR THE POWS AND EVEN SERVED TO GIVE THEM A UPPER HAND OVER THEIR JAILERS. SOME TIME LATER, THE PRESIDENT ASKED ADMIRAL MOORER TO COME OVER TO BRIEF HIM ON THE POWS. HE INFORMED ME THAT THE REAL REASON FOR HAVING MOORER COME WAS THAT HE WISHED TO ESTABLISH FIRMLY THE PRECEDENT THAT HE WILL SEE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF ALONE, AT HIS DESCRETION, AND WITHOUT THE SUBJECT MATTER BEING SIFTED THROUGH DOD. 25X1 25X1
3. HELMS PAID A CALL ON THE PRESIDENT TODAY. THERE WERE THREE MAJOR ELEMENTS IN THEIR DISCUSSION: (A) THE PRESIDENT ASKED HELMS TO IMMERSE HIMSELF THOROUGHLY IN THE OIL PROBLEM [redacted] 25X1 25X1 [redacted] (C) THE PRESIDENT OBSERVED THAT PERHAPS WE NEED A STUDY AND A NSC MEETING TO GET EVERYONE'S VIEWS ON THE WAY WE SHOULD RESPOND TO VILIFICATION BY 25X1 FOREIGN LEADERS. I.E., JUST HOW MUCH KICKING AROUND SHOULD THE U.S. TAKE WITHOUT REACTING. 25X1 25X1 [redacted]
5. HALDEMAN HAS ASKED ME IF THERE IS ANY SPECIFIC TIME SET YET FOR THIEU'S VISIT. HE WAS THINKING, PURELY IN TERMS OF GENERAL CONVENIENCE, OF SOMEWHERE AROUND MARCH 28. BASICALLY, HE WAS SIMPLY WONDERING IF ANY DEFINITE TIME FRAME HAD YET BEEN DECIDED.
WARM REGARDS.
470

OSD Review Completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/06/15 : LOC-HAK-505-8-25-5